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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/998,782	12/03/2001	Fred J. Reuter	TI-19560	7094

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EXAMINER

GOSSAGE, GLENN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2187

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2004

543-5123

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/998,782	REUTER, FRED J.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Glenn Gossage	2187	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2003.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3</u> .	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.
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Art Unit: 2187

1. The proposed substitute sheets of drawings filed on December 1, 2003 have been approved by the Examiner, subject to drafting review.

2. The indicated allowability of claims 1-7 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Maki and Mita et al. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow. Any inconvenience to applicant is sincerely regretted.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Maki.

With respect to claims 1 and 5, Maki discloses an image data processing method and system, the system including a memory (52 in Figure 1) storing image data having data words of a predetermined data width, each data word including a plurality of image pixels adjacently disposed on a single scan line, a set of a predetermined number of consecutive data words corresponding to a two dimensional tile of the image whereby

Art Unit: 2187

adjacent data words store image pixels of adjacent scan lines (see Figures 6 and 7 and 5, column 6, lines 40-49, e.g.), and a tile cache memory (see cache 51 in Figure 1) capable of storing a tile of image data from the memory. The data processing system includes a data processing "apparatus" connected to the memory and tile cache memory which is programmed to transfer a tile of image data from the memory into the tile cache memory, perform an image operation on the tile of image data stored in the tile cache memory, and transfer the tile of image data from the tile cache to the memory (see column 5, lines 26-55).

With respect to claims 2 and 6, one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the steps of transferring a tile of image data from the memory into the cache and performing image operations of tile data stored in the cache may be sequentially repeated for each component or tile of the image data.

With respect to claim 4, the image processing includes reading data from the image memory, modifying the data and writing individual pixels within a data word.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maki in view of Mita.


Art Unit: 2187

Maki discloses an image data processing method and system including a memory storing image data and a tile cache memory as in the claimed invention (see numbered paragraph 4 above), but does not teach providing multiple processors to operate upon differing tiles or components of the image data simultaneously. Mita similarly discloses an image data processing apparatus and teaches providing a plurality of processors or processing elements for simultaneously processing or operating upon differing components of the image data so as to increase processing speed (see column 33, line 51 to column 34, line 60 and Figures 57-59, e.g.). Accordingly, it would have been readily obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to utilize multiple processors to simultaneously operate upon differing tiles or components of image data, as taught by Mita, in the image processing system of Maki, in order to process the image data at high speed, high speed processing being a highly desirable feature in image data processing due to the amount of data included in an image.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Glenn Gossage whose telephone number is 703-305-3820.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Donald Sparks, can be reached on 703-308-1756.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.



GLENN GOSSAGE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 2187